



July 20, 2020

VIA EMAIL:

J. Justin Riemer
Chief Counsel
Republican National Committee
jreimer@gop.com and counsel@gop.com

Joy Lee
Counsel
2020 RNC - Committee on Arrangements
jlee@2020gopconvention.com

RE: Department of Justice Security Grant Reductions Resulting from Event Changes by RNC

Dear Justin and Joy:

The City of Charlotte (the “City”) is in receipt of your letter dated June 12, 2020, sent on behalf of the Republican National Committee and the Committee On Arrangements (collectively, the “RNC”) regarding the parties’ obligations under the Framework Agreement and the Arena License Agreement, both dated July 20, 2018. The letter provided formal notice of the RNC’s plans to dramatically reduce the size of the portions of the Republican National Convention (the “Convention”) to be hosted in Charlotte from August 21 to 24, 2020. The City is also in receipt of the revised Draft Member Agenda (attached) dated July 20, 2020, which Mr. Robert O’Donnell, Director of Security with the RNC emailed to Major Mike Adams of the City’s Police Department on July 17, 2020. As you know, the parties to the Arena License Agreement effectuated a termination of that agreement on July 15, 2020.

In the RNC’s June 12 letter, you requested that the City and other parties “refrain from incurring any additional costs that are no longer necessary as a result of the scaled-down Convention that we will host in Charlotte,” combined with your request that the City “review all existing agreements... and take steps to reduce their costs in light of the scaled down Convention.” The revised Draft Member Agenda further demonstrates a dramatically decreased Convention scale in Charlotte. Based on these documents noticing the RNC’s updated plans for the Charlotte portion of the Convention, the City has revised downward its safety- and security-related expenditures for the Convention accordingly.

As all parties are fully aware and as described in Section 7.7 of the Framework Agreement, the City’s obligation to provide a safe and secure Convention venue is premised upon reimbursement of security-related expenditures under the terms of a \$50 million security grant awarded by the federal government to the City and administered through the Department of Justice’s Bureau of Justice Affairs (“BJA”). Based on the above directions from the RNC and additional information provided to the City by the RNC and the Host Committee, BJA has requested that the City submit an updated, reduced budget with revised project costs, which is currently estimated at \$16,657,390. The City expects to submit the proposed, reduced budget to BJA contemporaneously with this letter. It is our understanding from the BJA that most, if not all, of the reductions to the City’s Convention security grant will be redeployed to Jacksonville, FL.

Please be on notice that due directly to the RNC's unilateral decision to relocate a portion of the Convention from Charlotte, the City intends to seek reimbursement for those expenses described in the reduced budget to support a scaled-down Convention. Though we understand and expect there may be minor adjustments to the agenda, it is absolutely critical that the Charlotte portion of the Convention remain a substantially scaled down event. As stated in the Framework Agreement, the City does not intend to and will not incur any costs in support of the Convention beyond the reduced budgeted amount subject to approval for reimbursement by BJA. Please additionally note that BJA's approval of the City's revised budget remains subject to additional reductions.

Should you have questions or concerns, please notify me immediately. I may be reached by telephone at 704-995-4225 or email at patrick.baker@charlottenc.gov.

Very Truly Yours,

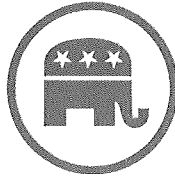
OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY



Patrick W. Baker
City Attorney

Attachment: Draft Member Agenda (dated July 20, 2020)

cc: Scott Syfert, (scottsyfert@mvalaw.com)
Tyrone Wade, (TyroneC.Wade@mecklenburgcountync.gov)
Cameron Furr (Cameron.Furr@CRVA.com)
Joe Pierce (jpierce@hornets.com)
Mayor and City Council (via email)
Marcus D. Jones, City Manager (mjones@ci.charlotte.nc.us)
Stephen Fender, Senior Policy Advisor/Grant Administrator, BJA
(Stephen.Fender@usdoj.gov)



2020 RNC SUMMER & ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

AGENDA
7/20/2020

*Credentials are **required** for entry to RNC meeting space and all meetings.*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM MEMBER SERVICES HELP DESK AND CREDENTIAL PICK-UP

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2020

7:30 AM – 5:00 PM MEMBER SERVICES HELP DESK AND CREDENTIAL PICK-UP

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM RNC STANDING COMMITTEE ON CONTESTS (SESSION 1 OF 2)

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM RNC STANDING COMMITTEE ON CONTESTS (SESSION 2 OF 2)

8:30 PM – 10:30 PM RNC WELCOME RECEPTION

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2020

8:30 AM – 5:00 PM MEMBER SERVICES HELP DESK AND CREDENTIAL PICK-UP

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM RNC STANDING BUDGET COMMITTEE

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM RNC EXECUTIVE | BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

10:15 AM – 11:00 AM RNC STANDING COMMITTEE ON RULES

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM RNC STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM LUNCH

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM RNC GENERAL SESSION

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM STATE CHAIRMEN MEETING

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM RNC RECEPTION

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020

7:30 AM – 5:00 PM MEMBER SERVICES HELP DESK AND CREDENTIAL PICK-UP

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM MEMBERS ONLY BREAKFAST

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM SECURITY BRIEFING

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM RNC UPDATE

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM LUNCH

1:00 PM – 9:00 PM CONVENTION COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

8:30 PM – 10:30 PM RNC RECEPTION HONORING COA MEMBERS

MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 2020

7:30 AM – 1:00 PM MEMBER SERVICES HELP DESK AND CREDENTIAL PICK-UP

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM BREAKFAST

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION UNDER RULE 37(E)

2:00 PM DEPART FOR JACKSONVILLE VIA RNC PROVIDED TRANSPORTATION

END OF CHARLOTTE BUSINESS, SEE NEXT PAGE FOR JACKSONVILLE CONVENTION CELEBRATION

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2020

TBD CONVENTION CELEBRATION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2020

TBD CONVENTION CELEBRATION

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2020

TBD CONVENTION CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2020

TBD AM RNC ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

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